

parliamentary debate and hopefully will not be seen as something only pursued by a few eccentric devotees.

Erratum

Giuseppe Micali's review of the book by Pazzuconi (*Bull. Br. Orn. Cl.* 119:208) contains the following errors: the sentence concerning cuckoos should state "2½ plates with 45 pairs of eggs documenting 27 species", and Micali's Christian name should be spelt "Giuseppe". He informed the editor of these errors in the proof, but the information did not arrive until after the text had gone to press.

The valid name for Blue-winged Parrotlet and designation of the lectotype of *Psittaculus xanthopterygius* Spix, 1824

by Bret M. Whitney & José Fernando Pacheco

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Johann Baptist Ritter von Spix (1824) described two small parrots he collected in Minas Gerais, Brazil, under the name *Psittaculus xanthopterygius*. Salvadori (1891) noted that the name included two different kinds of parrots. In his revision of Spix's type specimens of birds, Hellmayr (1906; this work was dated 1905, but published in 1906) recognized that these parrots represented two species pertaining to different genera. One of them proved to be an immature male *Brotogeris chiriri* (Vieillot 1817; Yellow-chevroned Parakeet), the other he identified as *Psittacula* (= *Forpus*) *passerina vivida* Ridgway 1888. Spix did not designate either of them the holotype, although he undoubtedly chose the name *xanthopterygius* in reference to the yellow on the wing of the larger specimen, sexed as a male. A question mark beside the "female" symbol for the smaller of the two on the colour plate (plate 34, fig. 2) accompanying Spix's description may indicate that he, or the artist (or another party), had some doubt about the sex or identity of the second specimen, which lacked yellow on the wing. (Regardless, this question mark has no nomenclatural significance). Hellmayr (1906) concluded that the specific epithet *xanthopterygius* was a composite applying to two previously named taxa, and placed it in the synonymy of both, indicating his intent clearly in separate species accounts (p. 580 for *Brotogeris chiriri*, p. 587 for *Psittacula passerina vivida*). Thus, Hellmayr did not designate a type specimen (to the contrary, he considered the name a synonym two times over), and his treatment did nothing to restrict the availability of the name *xanthopterygius*. This species-level arrangement was followed by Peters (1937) and Pinto (1938).

Gyldenstolpe (1945, pp. 52–55) presented a partial revision of the genus *Forpus*, separating two major, narrowly parapatric groups based primarily on colouration of the rump. The name *passerinus* (Green-rumped Parrotlet) applied to green-rumped birds. He

resurrected *xanthopterygius* (Blue-winged Parrotlet) as the oldest name available for his blue-rumped group. Pinto (1945) accepted Gyldenstolpe's arrangement, but proposed that the name *xanthopterygius* was inappropriate because it was a composite, and referred to the blue-rumped species-group by the next-oldest name, *crassirostris* (Taczanowski 1883). His reasoning is clear from the following sentence (pp. 12–13): "Isso [the fact that *xanthopterygius* was a composite], a meu ver, reduz o nome do Spix a sinônimo do de Vieillot [*Psittacus chiriri*], impedindo o seu emprego ulterior em nomenclatura." ["This, in my view, reduces Spix's name to the synonymy of Vieillot's name, impeding its later use in nomenclature"]. This paper by Pinto has been generally overlooked, although it was cited and followed by him in his later *Novo Catálogo das Aves do Brasil* (Pinto 1978). Meyer de Schauensee (1966, 1970), Forshaw (1973, 1989), and Sibley and Monroe (1990, 1993) continued to follow Gyldenstolpe (1945), possibly unaware of Pinto's (1945, 1978) opinion. Willis and Oniki (1991) and Stotz *et al.* (1996) followed Pinto (1978) in adopting *crassirostris* as the name for Blue-winged Parrotlet (*tuim-de-asa-azul* in Portuguese). Collar (1997a) offered an explanation of adoption of the name *crassirostris* by Stotz *et al.* (1996; which authors indicated only that they had followed Pinto [1978]), asserting that "the proper name for Blue-winged Parrotlet must remain *Forpus crassirostris*." Most recently, Collar (1997b: 449) used the name *Forpus crassirostris* for Blue-winged Parrotlet.

The International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN; 1961, 1964, 1985) has as its primary objective the stabilization and regulation of zoological and paleontological nomenclature. Because application of the ICZN became mandatory only with the first edition, the treatments of Salvadori (1891), Hellmayr (1906), Peters (1937), Gyldenstolpe (1945), Pinto (1945), or other authors before 1985, may be viewed in the context of their respective times as arbitrarily acceptable. Problems of access to some literature may have contributed to the disparate application of the names *xanthopterygius* and *crassirostris* summarized above. However, stabilization of the name for Blue-winged Parrotlet is currently a matter of straightforward invocation of the ICZN (1985). Chapter IV (Criteria of availability), Article 17 (1) states, "The availability of a name is not affected even if it is found that the original description relates to more than one taxon . . ." One of Spix's two specimens is clearly a *Brotogeris chiriri*; the other, a *Forpus* parrotlet, as a syntype, retains the name *xanthopterygius*. Thus, Pinto's (1945, 1978) opinion, unfortunately followed by several recent authors, must be discarded.

Gyldenstolpe (1945) is seen to have been quite correct, under the Principle of Priority (Chapter VI, Article 23), in resurrecting *xanthopterygius* for his blue-rumped group, and not "in ignorance of Hellmayr's [1906] paper", as presumed by Collar (1997a). When he applied the name *xanthopterygius* in his revision, Gyldenstolpe (1945) referred clearly to the individual specimen on which the name was based: "The type of this form, which is kept in the Munich Museum, is stated by Hellmayr in his valuable revision of the types described by

Spix (p. 587, 1906) to correspond in size and colouration with numerous females from Bahia." Under Chapter XVI (Types in the species group), Article 74 (a) of the ICZN (1985), and in consideration of the foregoing discussion of the proper application of nomenclature, this unambiguous statement by Gyldenstolpe serves to designate Spix's specimen the lectotype of the species *Psittaculus xanthopterygius*. As this fact seems to have been lost in the recent nomenclatural confusion, however, we hereby formally designate Spix's (1824) specimen of *Psittaculus xanthopterygius* (clearly a *Forpus* parrotlet) in the Zoologische Staatssammlung München, the lectotype of that species, with the type locality "Minas Geraës" (=Minas Gerais). To minimize further ambiguity, this specimen (which has no formal museum catalogue number, but which is clearly labeled with reference to the original description by Spix [1824]; J. H. Reichholf, *in litt.* to BMW June 1999) should be labeled the lectotype of *Psittaculus xanthopterygius* Spix 1824 at this time. Finally, in accordance with Recommendation 74A (Agreement with previous restriction), use of the widely accepted name *xanthopterygius* for the Blue-winged Parrotlet group preserves stability of the nomenclature.

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Addresses: Bret M. Whitney, Museum of Natural Science, 119 Foster Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803, U.S.A. José Fernando Pacheco, Departamento de Zoologia, Instituto de Biologia, UFRJ—21944-970, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

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Type specimens of new forms of *Lonchura*

by Mary LeCroy

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Recently, a number of new taxa of *Lonchura* finches have been proposed (Restall, 1992, 1995, 1996), and a book has since appeared in which these names are used (Restall 1997). The types of some of these new forms are in the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH). Several problems have arisen in relation to these names and this note is an attempt to clarify certain nomenclatural points, in part relevant to future publication of a list of types in the AMNH.

***Lonchura punctulata holmesii* Restall (1995: 141).** This taxon was previously validly described by Restall (1992: 115). Restall (1995: 141, 1997: 103) does not refer to the earlier description, which was apparently based on 29 living specimens, nine from "the country east of Pontianak" and "twenty shipped to Jakarta from Banjarmasin," all of which would be syntypes. Three specimens, apparently the only three preserved, have been deposited at the AMNH (Nos 831281, 831282, and 831283), and are said to be from Semitau. In compliance with the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) Article 74(a) (Ride, 1985: 153), I nominate specimen No. 831281 as the lectotype. The place of origin of the lectotype then becomes the type locality of the taxon (Article 74(a) (iii)), this being Semitau (0°30'N, 111°59'E), west Kalimantan, Indonesia. The other two extant